Appl. No. 10/023923 Amdt. dated November 22, 2006 Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure Examining Group 2132

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, claims 4-6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 26-29, 31, 33, 34, 37, and 38 were allowed. Claims 3 and 26 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. With this amendment, Applicants have rewritten claims 3 and 26 into independent form, per the Examiner's comments. The remaining claims have been canceled, without prejudice or waiver, leaving the application with only claims that have been allowed or were indicated as allowable. The canceled claims include claims 41-50, which were subject to restriction in the pending Office Action. Applicants reserve the right to file continuation and/or divisional applications directed to any or all of the canceled claims. Entry of this amendment, and further examination and reconsideration of this application as amended, are requested.

## **CONCLUSION**

Applicants assert that all claims remaining in this application after entry of the amendment, comprising claims 3-6, 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 26-29, 31, 33, 34, 37, and 38, are in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to please telephone the undersigned at direct dial telephone number 858-350-6107.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 20-1430.

Respectfully submitted,

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